PATENT APPLICATION

HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Confirmation No.: 2869

YANO et al.

Art Unit: 1731

Application No.: 09/926,709

Examiner: M. Alvo

Filed: December 5, 2001

Attorney Dkt. No.: 103176-00001

For: ASSISTANT FOR DIGESTING LIGNOCELLULOSE MATERIAL AND METHOD

FOR PRODUCING PULP

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 10, 2004

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated March 10, 2004, in connection with the above-identified application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the following remarks.